



Eddie A. Perez
Mayor

MAYOR PEREZ CONGRATULATES ERIC MANGINI ON HIS JOURNEY FROM HARTFORD TO HEAD COACH

(January 18, 2006)--- Calling him an “inspiration for Hartford youngsters”, Mayor Eddie Perez congratulates Eric Mangini on becoming the new Head Coach of the New York Jets. Mangini grew up in Hartford’s South End, graduated from Bulkeley High School and for the past five years has run a summer football camp for city children.

Mayor Perez says, “Coach Mangini’s strong work ethic and dedication shows that dreams do come true. As a graduate of Wesleyan, he is an example of being an outstanding student and as an athlete and coach he has proven to be an outstanding student of the game of football. Above all, he is a gracious individual because he remembers his roots and gives back to his community by providing hope and opportunity to Hartford’s youngsters through his football camp.”

Coach Mangini has credited his mentor, New England Patriots Head Coach Bill Belichick, for his success thanks to Belichick’s support, guidance, and friendship over the years.

Mentorship is being spotlighted this week in Connecticut. Mayor Perez spoke this morning about the importance of mentorship with Brad Davis on WDRC AM. The Mayor talked about how he himself has benefited from the life-long friendships of his mentors, Father Thomas Goekler of Sacred Heart Church and his Big Brother, David Lowery.

Mayor Perez says, “Mentoring is important because it provides positive role models that are so vital to our youngsters today. It helps them make the right decision in life and not go down the wrong path. Mentorship can help further a child’s education and as they get older, help them network which can lead to job opportunities. Mentoring has helped a Hartford resident like Eric Mangini. He is now a role model for other young people--- to aspire to a no-nonsense work ethic and a never stop dreaming attitude. Eric, congratulations and good luck.”